

MARINE FISHING TOURNAMENT/DERBY PERMIT APPLICATION



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

A permit is required to conduct a marine fishing tournament or derby in Connecticut that is open to persons sixteen years of age or older as described in under section 26-159a-26 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (see back page of application). There is no charge for the permit.

1. Name of Applicant: _____

2. Tel: Day _____ Evening _____ Cell Phone: _____

3. Street Address: _____ Town: _____

4. State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail Address: _____

5. Tournament/Derby Web-Site Address: _____

6. Tournament/Derby Name: _____

7. Tournament/Derby Sponser/Club: _____

8. Date/Time/Location of Captain's Meeting _____

9. Location of Tournament/Derby (Water Body): ☒ Long Island Sound (LIS) ☐ Outside LIS ☐ River

Town: _____ Check in Location(s): _____

10. Date(s) of Tournament/Derby: _____ Starting Time: _____ Check in Time(s): _____

11. Target Species: ☒ Bluefish ☐ Striped Bass ☐ Summer Flounder ☐ Tautog ☐ Scup ☐ Other: _____

12. Is this a Catch and Release (Alive) Fishing Tournament or Kill Tournament: ☒ Release ☐ Kill

13. If Catch and Release Fishing Tournament, are you requesting an exemption from the prohibition on culling or high grading? ☒ Yes ☐ No → If "Yes", see back page subsection "e", subdivision 1 thru 5 and subsection "f" on meeting the specified regulation criteria. If you specify "No", culling or high grading is prohibited.

Will all boats be equipped with live wells with functioning aerators or circulating pumps: ☒ Yes ☐ No

14. Estimated total number of boat anglers: _____ Estimated total number of shore anglers: _____

15. Estimated total number of boats: _____ Total number of trailers if using a state owned facility or boat launch: _____

16. Tournament Entry Fee (if any): _____ Total Value of Awards: _____

**Signature of
Applicant:** _____

Date: _____

Return completed form to: **DEP Marine Fisheries Division**
P.O. Box 719
Old Lyme, CT 06371

Any Questions? Call 860-434-6043

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies: 26-159a-26. Marine fishing tournaments

No person, club, or organization shall conduct, in Connecticut marine waters, a fishing tournament or derby which is open to persons sixteen years of age or older without having first registered such tournament or derby as provided in this section.

- (a) Each person, club, or organization wishing to conduct a fishing tournament or derby in marine waters shall register such tournament or derby with the Commissioner on forms provided by the Commissioner. Information required on such registration shall include, but not be limited to, the full name and address of the registrant; name of the tournament or derby; sponsor; general capture location; date(s); starting time(s); check-in time(s); check-in location(s); anticipated number of participants; target species, daily bag limits; size limit; entry fee; and total value of awards.
- (b) Each registrant shall, within seven days after conducting a tournament or derby, report to the Commissioner, on forms provided by the Commissioner, information on the results of the tournament or derby. Such information shall include, but not be limited to: total number of participants; total hours fished; total number of each species caught, the numbers released alive and dead and retained; and the individual length and weight of each fish weighed-in.
- (c) Representatives of the Commissioner shall be provided access to all tournament or derby areas during the event for the purposes of observation, assessment and law enforcement. Said representatives shall be allowed to collect biological and statistical information on any or all fish caught by registered participants in the tournament or derby.
- (d) Tournament or derby officials must agree to provide, upon written request, any or all fish entered in the tournament or derby to the Commissioner or to any representative of the Commissioner.
- (e) The Commissioner may grant, for any registered tournament or derby, an exemption from the prohibition on culling or high-grading specified in sections 26-159a-4 and 26-159a-7 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, provided that the Commissioner determines that the tournament or derby meets all of the following conditions:
 - (1) The tournament or derby director submits a written proposal to the Commissioner detailing the equipment and measures the tournament will use to ensure the survivability of fish taken in the tournament, including: the capture, handling and storage of fish by tournament entrants on the water during the competition, by tournament officials at the weigh-in and by tournament officials when transporting and returning fish to the water. ***Said proposal shall also include the tournament or derby rules, shall specify any penalties that will apply to entrants bringing in or weighing dead fish, shall be submitted no later than 120 days prior to the tournament and shall be determined by the Commissioner to adequately address potential fish mortality issues;***
 - (2) The tournament operates for a limited duration, with a maximum of 72 hours from the official start of the tournament to the final weigh-in deadline;
 - (3) When using baited hooks or lures with baited hooks, the use of non-offset circle hooks is required;
 - (4) The tournament format specifies the live release of all fish and imposes significant penalties for entrants landing or weighing in dead fish; and
 - (5) The tournament format specifies that any tournament participant that culls or high-grades dead fish from his catch before the tournament weigh-in shall be disqualified from the tournament.
- (f) The director of any tournament or derby granted an exemption under subsection (e) of this section shall provide to the Commissioner at least 12 hours prior to the beginning of the tournament a list of the names, residence addresses and boat registration numbers of each tournament participant.
- (g) Any determination by the Commissioner that the approval of any fishing tournament or derby would jeopardize any fish stock or adversely affect the Department's compliance with any interstate fishery management plan of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission or U. S Department of Commerce will result in disapproval of that request.
- (h) Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall be deemed grounds for denying the tournament applicant, club or organization a registration or exemption for a similar event to be held within three years from the date of such failure of compliance.

Connecticut DEP Marine Fishing Tournament/Derby Permit

(for agency use only)

Approved () Issue Date _____

Permit No. _____

Issued by _____
Signature

Marine Fishing Tournament/Derby Reporting Requirements

Representatives of the Commissioner shall be provided access to all tournament or derby areas during the event for the purposes of observation, assessment and law enforcement. Said representatives shall be allowed to collect biological and statistical information on any or all fish caught by registered participants in the tournament or derby. Tournament Director shall, within seven days after conducting a tournament or derby, report to the Commissioner, on forms provided by the Commissioner, information on the results of the tournament or derby. Such information shall include, but not be limited to: total number of participants; total hours fished; total number of each species caught, the numbers released alive and dead and retained; and the individual length and weight of each fish weighed-in.

Marine Fishing Tournament Report

Tournament/Derby Name _____ Permit No. _____

Total Number of Boat Anglers _____ Total Number of Shore Anglers _____ Total Number of Hours Fished _____

Total Number of Boats _____ Total Number of Boat Anglers that caught fish _____

Total Number of Shore Anglers that caught fish _____ If Catch and Release (Alive) Tournament ☒ ☐

Tournament Catch Results (in numbers of fish➡)	Fish Kept/Killed	Fish Released	Total Number
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Species _____	_____	_____	_____
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Species _____	_____	_____	_____
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Species _____	_____	_____	_____
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Species _____	_____	_____	_____
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Species _____	_____	_____	_____
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In addition to this form, please attach copies of individual species weigh-in results kept by tournament/derby officials and mail to:

**DEP Marine Fisheries Division
P.O. Box 719
Old Lyme CT 06371
860-434-6043**